

CONVENTIONAL EXECUTABLE SEMANTICS

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CS422 – Programming Language Design

Conventional Semantic Approaches

A language designer should understand the existing design approaches, techniques and tools, to know what is possible and how, or to come up with better ones. This part of the course will cover the major PL semantic approaches, such as:

- Big-step structural operational semantics (Big-step SOS)
- Small-step structural operational semantics (Small-step SOS)
- Modular structural operational semantics (Modular SOS)
- Reduction semantics with evaluation contexts
- The chemical abstract machine
- Denotational semantics

IMP

A simple imperative language

IMP – A Simple Imperative Language

We will exemplify the conventional semantic approaches by means of IMP, a very simple non-procedural imperative language, with

- Arithmetic expressions
- Boolean expressions
- Conditional statements
- While loop statements

IMP Syntax

Int ::= the domain of (unbounded) integer numbers, with usual operations on them
Bool ::= the domain of Booleans
Id ::= standard identifiers
AExp ::= *Int*
 | *Id*
 | *AExp* + *AExp*
 | *AExp* / *AExp*
BExp ::= *Bool*
 | *AExp* <= *AExp*
 | not *BExp*
 | *BExp* and *BExp*
Stmt ::= skip
 | *Id* := *AExp*
 | *Stmt* ; *Stmt*
 | if *BExp* then *Stmt* else *Stmt*
 | while *BExp* do *Stmt*
Pgm ::= vars **List**{*Id*} ; *Stmt*

Suppose that, for demonstration purposes, we want “+” and “/” to be nondeterministically strict, “<=“ to be sequentially strict, and “and” to be short-circuited.

IMP Syntax in Maude

□ For the remaining details, see the files in

□ [imp-syntax.zip](#)

```
mod IMP-SYNTAX is including PL-INT + PL-BOOL + PL-ID .
--- AExp
  sort AExp .  subsorts Int Id < AExp .
  op _+_ : AExp AExp -> AExp [prec 33 gather (E e) format (d b o d)] .
  op _/_ : AExp AExp -> AExp [prec 31 gather (E e) format (d b o d)] .
--- BExp
  sort BExp .  subsort Bool < BExp .
  op _<=_ : AExp AExp -> BExp [prec 37 format (d b o d)] .
  op not_ : BExp -> BExp [prec 53 format (b o d)] .
  op _and_ : BExp BExp -> BExp [prec 55 format (d b o d)] .
--- Stmt
  sort Stmt .
  op skip : -> Stmt [format (b o)] .
  op _:=_ : Id AExp -> Stmt [prec 40 format (d b o d)] .
  op _;_ : Stmt Stmt -> Stmt [prec 60 gather (e E) format (d b noi d)] .
  op if_then_else_ : BExp Stmt Stmt -> Stmt [prec 59 format (b o bni n++i bn--i n++i --)] .
  op while_do_ : BExp Stmt -> Stmt [prec 59 format (b o d n++i --)] .
--- Pgm
  sort Pgm .
  op vars_:_ : List{Id} Stmt -> Pgm [prec 70 format (nb o d ni d)] .
endm
```

IMP State

- Most semantics need some notion of *state*
- A state holds all the semantic ingredients to fully define the meaning of a given program or fragment of program
- For IMP, a state is simply a *partial finite-domain function* from identifiers to integer values, written

$$\sigma : Id \rightarrow Int$$

- We write the domain of such functions, say *State*, as

$$[Id \rightarrow Int]^{finite}$$

or

$$\mathbf{Map}\{Id \mapsto Int\}$$

Lookup, Update and Initialization

- We may write states by enumerating each identifier binding.
For example, the following state binds x to 8 and y to 0:

$$\sigma = x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0$$

- Typical state operations are lookup, update and initialization

- *Lookup*

$$_(-) : State \times Id \rightarrow Int$$

- *Update*

$$_-[_/_] : State \times Int \times Id \rightarrow State$$

- *Initialization*

$$_ \mapsto _ : \mathbf{List}\{Id\} \times Int \rightarrow State$$

IMP State in Maude

□ See file

▣ [state.zip](#)

```
mod STATE is including PL-INT + PL-ID .
  sort State .
  op _|->_ : List{Id} Int -> State [prec 0] .
  op .State : -> State .
  op _&_ : State State -> State [assoc comm id: .State format(d s s d)] .
  op _(_) : State Id -> [Int] [prec 0] .          --- lookup
  op _[_/_] : State Int Id -> State [prec 0] .    --- update

  var Sigma : State .  var X X' : Id .  var Xl : List{Id} .  var I I' : Int .

  eq (Sigma & X |-> I) (X) = I .
  eq (Sigma & X |-> I) [I' / X] = (Sigma & X |-> I') .
  eq (X,X',Xl) |-> I = X |-> I & X' |-> I & Xl |-> I .
  eq .List{Id} |-> I = .State .
endm
```

BIG-STEP SOS

Big-step structural operational semantics

Big-Step Structural Operational Semantics (Big-Step SOS)

- Gilles Kahn (1987), under the name *natural semantics*
- Also known as *relational semantics*, or *evaluation semantics*
- One can regard a big-step SOS as a recursive interpreter, telling for a fragment of code and state what it evaluates to
- **Configuration**: tuple containing code and semantic ingredients
 - E.g., $\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \quad \langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \quad \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle i_1 +_{Int} i_2 \rangle \quad \langle \sigma \rangle$
- **Sequent**: Pair of configurations, to be *derived* or *proved*
 - E.g., $\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 +_{Int} i_2 \rangle$
- **Rule**: Tells how to derive a sequent from others
 - E.g.,
$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 +_{Int} i_2 \rangle}$$

Big-Step SOS of IMP - Arithmetic

$$\langle i, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i \rangle$$

(BIGSTEP-INT)

$$\langle x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma(x) \rangle$$

State
lookup

(BIGSTEP-LOOKUP)

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 +_{Int} i_2 \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-ADD)

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 /_{Int} i_2 \rangle}, \text{ where } i_2 \neq 0$$

(BIGSTEP-DIV)

Big-Step SOS of IMP - Boolean

$$\langle t, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle t \rangle$$

(BIGSTEP-BOOL)

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 \leq a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \leq_{Int} i_2 \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-LEQ)

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle}{\langle \text{not } b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-NOT-TRUE)

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle}{\langle \text{not } b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-NOT-FALSE)

$$\frac{\langle b_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle}{\langle b_1 \text{ and } b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-AND-FALSE)

$$\frac{\langle b_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle \quad \langle b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle t \rangle}{\langle b_1 \text{ and } b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle t \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-AND-TRUE)

Big-Step SOS of IMP - Statements

$$\langle \text{skip}, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma \rangle$$

(BIGSTEP-SKIP)

$$\langle a, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i \rangle$$

$$\frac{\langle a, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i \rangle}{\langle x := a, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma[i/x] \rangle}$$

State
update

(BIGSTEP-ASGN)

$$\langle s_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_1 \rangle \quad \langle s_2, \sigma_1 \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_2 \rangle$$

$$\frac{\langle s_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_1 \rangle \quad \langle s_2, \sigma_1 \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_2 \rangle}{\langle s_1; s_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_2 \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-SEQ)

$$\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle \quad \langle s_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_1 \rangle$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle \quad \langle s_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_1 \rangle}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_1 \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-IF-TRUE)

$$\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle \quad \langle s_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_2 \rangle$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle \quad \langle s_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_2 \rangle}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma_2 \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-IF-FALSE)

$$\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{false} \rangle}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } s, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma \rangle}$$

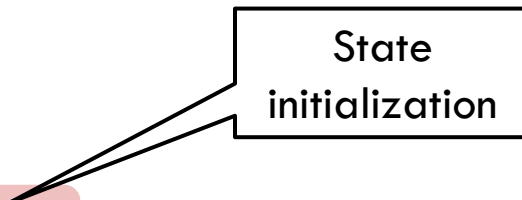
(BIGSTEP-WHILE-FALSE)

$$\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle \quad \langle s; \text{while } b \text{ do } s, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma' \rangle$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{true} \rangle \quad \langle s; \text{while } b \text{ do } s, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma' \rangle}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } s, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma' \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-WHILE-TRUE)

Big-Step SOS of IMP - Programs


$$\frac{\langle s, xl \mapsto 0 \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma \rangle}{\langle \text{vars } xl ; s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma \rangle}$$

(BIGSTEP-VARS)

Big-Step Rule Instances

- Rules are schemas, allowing recursively enumerable many instances; side conditions filter out instances

- E.g., these are correct instances of the rule for division

$$\frac{\langle x, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 8 \rangle \quad \langle 2, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 2 \rangle}{\langle x/2, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 4 \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle x, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 8 \rangle \quad \langle 2, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 4 \rangle}{\langle x/2, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 2 \rangle}$$

The second may look suspicious, but it is not. Normally, one should never be able to apply it, because one cannot prove its hypotheses

- However, the following is *not* a correct instance (no matter what ? is):

$$\frac{\langle x, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 8 \rangle \quad \langle y, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle 0 \rangle}{\langle x/y, (x \mapsto 8, y \mapsto 0) \rangle \Downarrow \langle ? \rangle}$$

Big-Step SOS Derivation

The following is a valid proof derivation, or proof tree, using the big-step SOS proof system of IMP above.

Suppose that x and y are identifiers and $\sigma(x)=8$ and $\sigma(y)=0$.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \hline \langle x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 8 \rangle \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} \cdot \qquad \cdot \\ \hline \langle y, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 0 \rangle \quad \langle x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 8 \rangle \\ \hline \langle y/x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 0 \rangle \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \hline \langle 2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 2 \rangle \end{array} \\
 \hline
 \langle y/x + 2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 2 \rangle
 \end{array}
 \\
 \hline
 \langle x/(y/x + 2), \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle 4 \rangle
 \end{array}$$

Big-Step SOS for Type Systems

- Big-Step SOS routinely used to define type systems for programming languages
- The idea is that a fragment of code c , in a given *type environment* Γ , can be assigned a certain type τ . We typically write

instead of

$$\Gamma \vdash c : \tau$$

$$\langle c, \Gamma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \tau \rangle$$

- Since all variables in IMP have integer type, Γ can be replaced by a list of untyped variables in our case. In general, however, a type environment Γ contains *typed variables*, that is, pairs “ $x : \tau$ ”.

Typing Arithmetic Expressions

$$xl \vdash i : int$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-INT)

$$(xl, x, xl') \vdash x : int$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-LOOKUP)

$$\frac{xl \vdash a_1 : int \quad xl \vdash a_2 : int}{xl \vdash a_1 + a_2 : int}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-ADD)

$$\frac{xl \vdash a_1 : int \quad xl \vdash a_2 : int}{xl \vdash a_1 / a_2 : int}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-DIV)

Typing Boolean Expressions

$$xl \vdash t : bool$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-BOOL)

$$\frac{xl \vdash a_1 : int \quad xl \vdash a_2 : int}{xl \vdash a_1 \leq a_2 : bool}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-LEQ)

$$\frac{xl \vdash b : bool}{xl \vdash \text{not } b : bool}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-NOT)

$$\frac{xl \vdash b_1 : bool \quad xl \vdash b_2 : bool}{xl \vdash b_1 \text{ and } b_2 : bool}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-AND)

Typing Statements

$$xl \vdash \text{skip} : stmt$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-SKIP)

$$\frac{(xl, x, xl') \vdash a : int}{(xl, x, xl') \vdash (x := a) : stmt}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-ASGN)

$$\frac{xl \vdash s_1 : stmt \quad xl \vdash s_2 : stmt}{xl \vdash s_1 ; s_2 : stmt}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-SEQ)

$$\frac{xl \vdash b : bool \quad xl \vdash s_1 : stmt \quad xl \vdash s_2 : stmt}{xl \vdash \text{if } b \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 : stmt}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-IF)

$$\frac{xl \vdash b : bool \quad xl \vdash s : stmt}{xl \vdash \text{while } b \text{ do } s : stmt}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-WHILE)

Typing Programs

$$\frac{xl \vdash s : stmt}{\vdash \text{vars } xl ; s : pgm}$$

(BIGSTEPTYPESYSTEM-VARS)

Big-Step SOS Type Derivation

Like the big-step rules for the concrete semantics of IMP, the ones for its type system are also rule schemas. We next show a proof derivation for the well-typedness of an IMP program that adds all the numbers from 1 to 100:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{tree_1}{n, s \vdash (n:=100; s:=0; \text{while not}(n \leq 0) \text{ do } (s:=s+n; n:=n+-1)) : stmt} \quad \frac{\frac{tree_2 \quad tree_3}{n, s \vdash (\text{while not}(n \leq 0) \text{ do } (s:=s+n; n:=n+-1)) : stmt}}{n, s \vdash (n:=100; s:=0; \text{while not}(n \leq 0) \text{ do } (s:=s+n; n:=n+-1)) : stmt}}{\vdash (\text{vars } n, s; n:=100; s:=0; \text{while not}(n \leq 0) \text{ do } (s:=s+n; n:=n+-1)) : pgm}}$$

where

Big-Step SOS Type Derivation

$$tree_1 = \left\{ \frac{\frac{\frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash 100 : int}}{n, s \vdash (n := 100) : stmt} \quad \frac{\frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash 0 : int}}{n, s \vdash (s := 0) : stmt}}{n, s \vdash (n := 100; s := 0) : stmt} \right.$$

$$tree_2 = \left\{ \frac{\frac{\frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash n : int}}{n, s \vdash (n \leq 0) : bool} \quad \frac{\frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash 0 : int}}{n, s \vdash (not(n \leq 0)) : bool}}{n, s \vdash (not(n \leq 0)) : bool} \right.$$

Big-Step SOS Type Derivation

$$tree_3 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \frac{\frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash s : int} \quad \frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash n : int}}{n, s \vdash (s+n) : int} \quad \frac{\frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash n : int} \quad \frac{\cdot}{n, s \vdash -1 : int}}{n, s \vdash (n+-1) : int} \\ \hline \frac{n, s \vdash (s:=s+n) : stmt \quad n, s \vdash (n:= n+-1) : stmt}{n, s \vdash (s:=s+n; n:= n+-1) : stmt} \end{array} \right.$$

Big-Step SOS in Rewriting Logic

- Any big-step SOS can be associated a rewrite logic theory (or, equivalently, a Maude module)
- The idea is to associate to each big-step SOS rule

$$\frac{C_1 \Downarrow R_1 \quad C_2 \Downarrow R_2 \quad \dots \quad C_n \Downarrow R_n}{C \Downarrow R}$$

a rewrite rule

$$\overline{C} \rightarrow \overline{R} \text{ if } \overline{C_1} \rightarrow \overline{R_1} \wedge \overline{C_2} \rightarrow \overline{R_2} \wedge \dots \wedge \overline{C_n} \rightarrow \overline{R_n}$$

(over-lining means “algebraization”)

Big-Step SOS of IMP in Maude

- See file
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-bigstep.maude`
- See file
 - ▣ `imp-type-system-bigstep.maude`

SMALL-STEP SOS

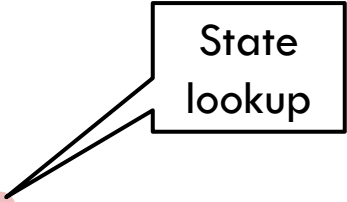
Small-step structural operational semantics

Small-Step Structural Operational Semantics (Small-Step SOS)

- Gordon Plotkin (1981), under the name *natural semantics*
- Also known as *transitional semantics*, or *reduction semantics*
- One can regard a small-step SOS as a device capable of executing a program step-by-step
- **Configuration**: tuple containing code and semantic ingredients
 - E.g., $\langle a, \sigma \rangle$ $\langle b, \sigma \rangle$ $\langle s, \sigma \rangle$ $\langle p \rangle$
- **Sequent (transition)**: Pair of configurations, to be *derived* (proved)
 - E.g., $\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1, \sigma \rangle$ $\langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle$
- **Rule**: Tells how to derive a sequent from others
 - E.g.,

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1, \sigma \rangle}{\langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle}$$

Small-Step SOS of IMP - Arithmetic


$$\langle x, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \sigma(x), \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-LOOKUP})$$

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1, \sigma \rangle}{\langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-ADD-ARG1})$$

$$\frac{\langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_2, \sigma \rangle}{\langle a_1 + a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a_1 + a'_2, \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-ADD-ARG2})$$

$$\langle i_1 + i_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle i_1 +_{Int} i_2, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-ADD})$$

Small-Step SOS of IMP - Arithmetic

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1, \sigma \rangle}{\langle a_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-DIV-ARG1})$$

$$\frac{\langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_2, \sigma \rangle}{\langle a_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a_1 / a'_2, \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-DIV-ARG2})$$

$$\langle i_1 / i_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle i_1 /_{Int} i_2, \sigma \rangle \quad \text{when } i_2 \neq 0 \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-DIV})$$

Small-Step SOS of IMP - Boolean

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1, \sigma \rangle}{\langle a_1 \leq a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_1 \leq a_2, \sigma \rangle}$$

(SMALLSTEP-LEQ-ARG1)

$$\frac{\langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a'_2, \sigma \rangle}{\langle i_1 \leq a_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle i_1 \leq a'_2, \sigma \rangle}$$

(SMALLSTEP-LEQ-ARG2)

$$\langle i_1 \leq i_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle i_1 \leq_{Int} i_2, \sigma \rangle$$

(SMALLSTEP-LEQ)

Small-Step SOS of IMP - Boolean

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle b', \sigma \rangle}{\langle \text{not } b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{not } b', \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-NOT-ARG})$$

$$\langle \text{not true}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{false}, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-NOT-TRUE})$$

$$\langle \text{not false}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{true}, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-NOT-FALSE})$$

$$\frac{\langle b_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle b'_1, \sigma \rangle}{\langle b_1 \text{ and } b_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle b'_1 \text{ and } b_2, \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-AND-ARG1})$$

$$\langle \text{false and } b_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{false}, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-AND-FALSE})$$

$$\langle \text{true and } b_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle b_2, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-AND-TRUE})$$

Small-Step SOS Derivation

The following is a valid proof derivation, or proof tree, using the small-step SOS proof system for expressions of IMP above.
Suppose that x and y are identifiers and $\sigma(x)=1$.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\cdot}{\langle x, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle 1, \sigma \rangle}}{\langle y / x, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle y / 1, \sigma \rangle}}{\langle x + (y / x), \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle x + (y / 1), \sigma \rangle}}{\langle (x + (y / x)) \leq x, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle (x + (y / 1)) \leq x, \sigma \rangle}}$$

Small-Step SOS of IMP - Statements

$$\frac{\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle a', \sigma \rangle}{\langle x := a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle x := a', \sigma \rangle}$$

State
update

(SMALLSTEP-ASGN-ARG2)

$$\langle x := i, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{skip}, \sigma[i/x] \rangle$$

(SMALLSTEP-ASGN)

$$\frac{\langle s_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle s'_1, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle s_1 ; s_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle s'_1 ; s_2, \sigma' \rangle}$$

(SMALLSTEP-SEQ-ARG1)

$$\langle \text{skip} ; s_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle s_2, \sigma \rangle$$

(SMALLSTEP-SEQ-SKIP)

Small-Step SOS of IMP - Statements

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle b', \sigma \rangle}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{if } b' \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, \sigma \rangle} \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-IF-ARG1})$$

$$\langle \text{if true then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle s_1, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-IF-TRUE})$$

$$\langle \text{if false then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle s_2, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-IF-FALSE})$$

$$\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } s, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{if } b \text{ then } (s ; \text{while } b \text{ do } s) \text{ else skip}, \sigma \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-WHILE})$$

$$\langle \text{vars } xl ; s \rangle \rightarrow \langle s, (xl \mapsto 0) \rangle \quad (\text{SMALLSTEP-VARS})$$



State
initialization

Small-Step SOS in Rewriting Logic

- Any small-step SOS can be associated a rewrite logic theory (or, equivalently, a Maude module)
- The idea is to associate to each small-step SOS rule

$$\frac{C_1 \rightarrow C'_1 \quad C_2 \rightarrow C'_2 \quad \dots \quad C_n \rightarrow C'_n}{C \rightarrow C'}$$

a rewrite rule

$$\circ \overline{C} \rightarrow \overline{C'} \quad \text{if} \quad \circ \overline{C_1} \rightarrow \overline{C'_1} \wedge \circ \overline{C_2} \rightarrow \overline{C'_2} \wedge \dots \wedge \circ \overline{C_n} \rightarrow \overline{C'_n}.$$

(the circle means “ready for one step”)

Small-Step SOS of IMP in Maude

- See file
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-smallstep.maude`

MSOS

Modular structural operational semantics

Modular Structural Operational Semantics (Modular SOS, or MSOS)

- Peter Mosses (1999)
- Addresses the non-modularity aspects of SOS
 - ▣ A definitional framework is *non-modular* when, in order to add a new feature to an existing language, one needs to revisit and change some of the already defined, unrelated language features
 - ▣ The non-modularity of SOS will become clear when we define IMP++
- Why modularity is important
 - ▣ Modifying existing rules when new rules are added is *error prone*
 - ▣ When *experimenting* with language design, one needs to make changes quickly; having to do unrelated changes slows us down
 - ▣ *Rapid language development*, e.g., domain-specific languages

Philosophy of MSOS

- *Separate the syntax* from configurations and treat it differently
- Transitions go from *syntax to syntax*, hiding the other configuration components into *transition labels*
- Labels encode all the non-syntactic configuration changes
- Specialized notation in transition labels, to
 - ▣ Say that certain configuration components stay unchanged
 - ▣ Say that certain configuration changes are propagated from the premise to the conclusion of a rule

MSOS Transitions

- An MSOS transition has the form

$$P \xrightarrow{\Delta} P'$$

- ▣ P and P' are programs or fragments of program
 - ▣ Δ is a label describing the changes in the configuration components, defined as a record; primed fields stay for “after” the transition
- Example:

$$x := i \xrightarrow{\{\text{state}=\sigma, \text{state}'=\sigma[i/x], \dots\}} \text{skip}$$

- ▣ This rule can be automatically “desugared” into the SOS rule

$$\langle x := i, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{skip}, \sigma[i/x] \rangle$$

But also into (if the configuration contains more components, like in IMP++)

$$\langle x := i, \sigma, \omega \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{skip}, \sigma[i/x], \omega \rangle$$

MSOS Labels

- Labels are field assignments, or records, and can use “...” for “and so on”, called *record comprehension*
- Fields can be primed or not.
 - ▣ Unprimed = configuration component *before* the transition is applied
 - ▣ Primed = configuration component *after* the transition is applied
- Some fields appear both unprimed and primed (called read-write), while others appear only primed (called write-only) or only unprimed (called read-only)

MSOS Labels

□ Field types

- ▣ Read/write = fields which appear both unprimed and unprimed

$$x := i \xrightarrow{\{\text{state}=\sigma, \text{state}'=\sigma[i/x], \dots\}} \text{skip}$$

- ▣ Write-only = fields which appear only primed

$$\text{output}(i) \xrightarrow{\{\text{output}'=i, \dots\}} \text{skip}$$

- ▣ Read-only = fields which appear only unprimed (see rules next)

$$\frac{e_2 \xrightarrow{\{\text{env}=\rho[v_1/x]\}} e'_2, \dots}{\text{let } x = v_1 \text{ in } e_2 \xrightarrow{\{\text{env}=\rho, \dots\}} \text{let } x = v_1 \text{ in } e'_2}$$

MSOS Rules

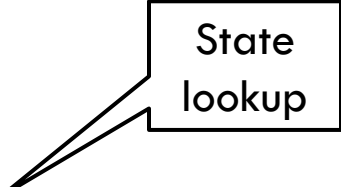
- Like in SOS, but using MSOS transitions as sequents
- Same labels or parts of them can be used multiple times in a rule
- Example:

$$\frac{s_1 \xrightarrow{\Delta} s'_1}{s_1 ; s_2 \xrightarrow{\Delta} s'_1 ; s_2}$$

- Same Δ means that changes propagate from premise to conclusion
- The author of MSOS now promotes a simplifying notation
 - If the premise and the conclusion repeat the same label or part of it, simply drop that label or part of it. For example:

$$\frac{s_1 \rightarrow s'_1}{s_1 ; s_2 \rightarrow s'_1 ; s_2}$$

MSOS of IMP - Arithmetic


$$x \xrightarrow{\{\text{state}=\sigma, \dots\}} \sigma(x) \quad (\text{MSOS-LOOKUP})$$

$$\frac{a_1 \rightarrow a'_1}{a_1 + a_2 \rightarrow a'_1 + a_2} \quad (\text{MSOS-ADD-ARG1})$$

$$\frac{a_2 \rightarrow a'_2}{a_1 + a_2 \rightarrow a_1 + a'_2} \quad (\text{MSOS-ADD-ARG2})$$

$$i_1 + i_2 \rightarrow i_1 +_{Int} i_2 \quad (\text{MSOS-ADD})$$

MSOS of IMP - Arithmetic

$$\frac{a_1 \rightarrow a'_1}{a_1 / a_2 \rightarrow a'_1 / a_2} \quad (\text{MSOS-DIV-ARG1})$$

$$\frac{a_2 \rightarrow a'_2}{a_1 / a_2 \rightarrow a_1 / a'_2} \quad (\text{MSOS-DIV-ARG2})$$

$$i_1 / i_2 \rightarrow i_1 /_{Int} i_2 \quad \text{when } i_2 \neq 0 \quad (\text{MSOS-DIV})$$

MSOS of IMP - Boolean

$$\frac{a_1 \rightarrow a'_1}{a_1 \leq a_2 \rightarrow a'_1 \leq a_2}$$

(MSOS-LEQ-ARG1)

$$\frac{a_2 \rightarrow a'_2}{i_1 \leq a_2 \rightarrow i_1 \leq a'_2}$$

(MSOS-LEQ-ARG2)

$$i_1 \leq i_2 \rightarrow i_1 \leq_{Int} i_2$$

(MSOS-LEQ)

MSOS of IMP - Boolean

$$\frac{b \rightarrow b'}{\text{not } b \rightarrow \text{not } b'} \quad (\text{MSOS-NOT-ARG})$$

$$\text{not true} \rightarrow \text{false} \quad (\text{MSOS-NOT-TRUE})$$

$$\text{not false} \rightarrow \text{true} \quad (\text{MSOS-NOT-FALSE})$$

$$\frac{b_1 \rightarrow b'_1}{b_1 \text{ and } b_2 \rightarrow b'_1 \text{ and } b_2} \quad (\text{MSOS-AND-ARG1})$$

$$\text{false and } b_2 \rightarrow \text{false} \quad (\text{MSOS-AND-FALSE})$$

$$\text{true and } b_2 \rightarrow b_2 \quad (\text{MSOS-AND-TRUE})$$

MSOS of IMP - Statements

$$\frac{a \rightarrow a'}{x := a \rightarrow x := a'}$$

(MSOS-ASGN-ARG2)

$$x := i \xrightarrow{\{\text{state}=\sigma, \text{state}'=\sigma[i/x], \dots\}} \text{skip}$$

(MSOS-ASGN)

$$\frac{s_1 \rightarrow s'_1}{s_1 ; s_2 \rightarrow s'_1 ; s_2}$$

(MSOS-SEQ-ARG1)

$$\text{skip} ; s_2 \rightarrow s_2$$

(MSOS-SEQ-SKIP)

MSOS of IMP - Statements

$$\frac{b \rightarrow b'}{\text{if } b \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightarrow \text{if } b' \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2} \quad (\text{MSOS-IF-ARG1})$$

$$\text{if true then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightarrow s_1 \quad (\text{MSOS-IF-TRUE})$$

$$\text{if false then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightarrow s_2 \quad (\text{MSOS-IF-FALSE})$$

$$\text{while } b \text{ do } s \rightarrow \text{if } b \text{ then } (s ; \text{while } b \text{ do } s) \text{ else skip} \quad (\text{MSOS-WHILE})$$

$$\text{vars } xl ; s \xrightarrow{\{\text{state}' = xl \mapsto 0, \dots\}} s \quad (\text{MSOS-VARS})$$

MSOS in Rewriting Logic

- Any MSOS can be associated a rewrite logic theory (or, equivalently, a Maude module)
- Idea:
 - ▣ Desugar MSOS into SOS
 - ▣ Apply the SOS-to-rewriting-logic representation, but
 - ▣ Hold the non-syntactic configuration components in an ACI-data-structure, so that we can use ACI matching to retrieve only the fields of interest (which need to be read or written to)

MSOS of IMP in Maude

- See file
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-msos.maude`

RSEC

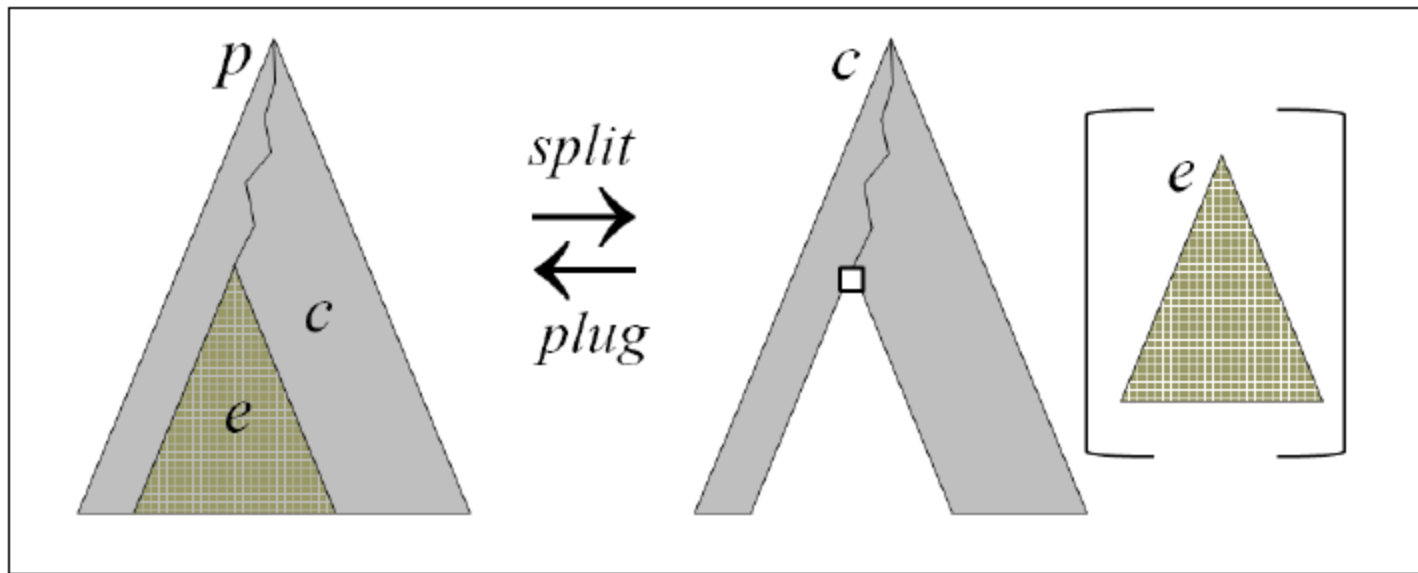
Reduction semantics with evaluation contexts

Reduction Semantics with Evaluation Contexts (RSEC)

- Matthias Felleisen and collaborators (1992)
- Previous approaches encoded the program execution context as a proof context, by means of rule conditions or premises
 - ▣ This has a series of advantages, but makes it hard to define control intensive features, such as abrupt termination, exceptions, call/cc, etc.
- We would like to have the execution context explicit, so that we can easily save it, change it, or even delete it
- Reduction semantics with evaluation contexts does precisely that
 - ▣ It allows to formally define *evaluation contexts*
 - ▣ Rules become mostly *unconditional*
 - ▣ Reductions can only happen “*in context*”

Splitting and Plugging

- RSEC relies on reversible implicit mechanisms to
 - ▣ Split syntax into an evaluation context and a redex
 - ▣ Plug a redex into an evaluation contexts and obtain syntax again



$$p = c[e]$$

Evaluation Contexts

- Evaluation contexts are typically defined by the same means that we use to define the language syntax, that is, grammars
- The *hole* □ represents the place where redex is to be plugged
- Example:

```
Context ::= □  
          | Context <= AExp  
          | Int <= Context  
          | Id := Context  
          | Context ; Stmt  
          | if Context then Stmt else Stmt  
          | ...
```

Correct Evaluation Contexts

\square

$3 \leq \square$

$\square \leq 3$

$\square ; x := 5$

$\text{if } \square \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2$

Wrong Evaluation Contexts

$\square \leq \square$

$x \leq 3$

$x \leq \square$

$x := 5 ; \square$

$\square := 5$

if $x \leq 7$ then \square else $x := 5$

Splitting/Plugging of Syntax

$$7 = (\square)[7]$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \leq x &= (3 \leq \square)[x] = (\square \leq x)[3] \\ &= (\square)[3 \leq x] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \leq (2 + x) + 7 &= (3 \leq \square + 7)[2 + x] \\ &= (\square \leq (2 + x) + 7)[3] \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

Characteristic Rule of RSEC

$$\frac{e \rightarrow e'}{c[e] \rightarrow c[e']}$$

- The characteristic rule of RSEC allows us to only define semantic rules stating how redexes are reduced
 - ▣ This significantly reduces the number of rules
 - ▣ The semantic rules are mostly unconditional (no premises)
 - ▣ The overall result is a semantics which is compact and easy to read and understand

RSEC of IMP – Evaluation Contexts

IMP evaluation contexts syntax

$Context ::= \square$
| $Context + AExp \mid AExp + Context$
| $Context / AExp \mid AExp / Context$

| $Context \leq AExp \mid Int \leq Cxt$
| **not** $Context$
| $Context$ **and** $BExp$
| $Id := Context$
| $Context ; Stmt$
| **if** $Context$ **then** $Stmt$ **else** $Stmt$

IMP language syntax

$AExp ::= Int \mid Id \mid$
| $AExp + AExp$
| $AExp / AExp$

 $BExp ::= Bool$
| $AExp \leq AExp$
| **not** $BExp$
| $BExp$ **and** $BExp$

 $Stmt ::= Id := AExp$
| $Stmt ; Stmt$
| **if** $BExp$ **then** $Stmt$ **else** $Stmt$
| **while** $BExp$ **do** $Stmt$

 $Pgm ::= \text{vars List}\{Id\} ; Stmt$

RSEC of IMP – Rules

$$\text{Context} ::= \dots \mid \langle \text{Context}, \text{State} \rangle$$

$$\frac{e \rightarrow e'}{c[e] \rightarrow c[e']}$$

$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle [x] \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma \rangle [\sigma(x)]$$
$$i_1 + i_2 \rightarrow i_1 +_{Int} i_2$$
$$i_1 / i_2 \rightarrow i_1 /_{Int} i_2, \quad \text{when } i_2 \neq 0$$
$$i_1 \leq i_2 \rightarrow i_1 \leq_{Int} i_2$$
$$\text{not true} \rightarrow \text{false}$$
$$\text{not false} \rightarrow \text{true}$$
$$\text{true and } b_2 \rightarrow b_2$$
$$\text{false and } b_2 \rightarrow \text{false}$$
$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle [x := i] \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma[i/x] \rangle [\text{skip}]$$
$$\text{skip} ; s_2 \rightarrow s_2$$
$$\text{if true then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightarrow s_1$$
$$\text{if false then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightarrow s_2$$
$$\text{while } b \text{ do } s \rightarrow \text{if } b \text{ then } (s ; \text{while } b \text{ do } s) \text{ else skip}$$
$$\langle \text{vars } xl ; s \rangle \rightarrow \langle s, (xl \mapsto 0) \rangle$$

RSEC Derivation

$\langle \boxed{x := 1} ; y := 2 ; \text{if } x \leq y \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 0) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \boxed{\text{skip} ; y := 2} ; \text{if } x \leq y \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 0) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \boxed{y := 2} ; \text{if } x \leq y \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 0) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \text{skip} ; \text{if } x \leq y \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \text{if } \boxed{x} \leq y \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \text{if } 1 \leq \boxed{y} \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \text{if } \boxed{1 \leq 2} \text{ then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \text{if true then } x := 0 \text{ else } y := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle x := 0 , (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

$\rightarrow \langle \text{skip} , (x \mapsto 0, y \mapsto 2) \rangle$

RSEC in Rewriting Logic

- Like with the other styles, RSEC can also be faithfully represented in rewriting logic and, implicitly, in Maude
- However, RSEC is context sensitive, while rewriting logic is not (rewriting logic allows rewriting strategies, but one can still not match and modify the context, as we can do in RSEC)
- We therefore need
 - ▣ A mechanism to achieve context sensitivity (the splitting/plugging) in rewriting logic
 - ▣ Use that mechanism to represent the characteristic rule of RSEC

Evaluation Contexts in Rewriting Logic

- An evaluation context CFG production in RSEC has the form

$$\textit{Context} ::= \pi(N_1, \dots, N_n, \textit{Context})$$

- Associate to each such production one rule and one equation:

$$\textit{split}(\pi(T_1, \dots, T_n, T)) \rightarrow \pi(T_1, \dots, T_n, C)[\textit{Syn}] \text{ if } \textit{split}(T) \rightarrow C[\textit{Syn}]$$

$$\textit{plug}(\pi(T_1, \dots, T_n, C)[\textit{Syn}]) = \pi(T_1, \dots, T_n, \textit{plug}(C[\textit{Syn}])))$$

- Plus, we add one generic rule and one generic equation:

$$\textit{split}(\textit{Syn}) \rightarrow \Box[\textit{Syn}]$$

$$\textit{plug}(\Box[\textit{Syn}]) = \textit{Syn}$$

IMP Examples:

□ For productions

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \textit{Context} & ::= & \textit{Context} \leq A \textit{Exp} \\ & | & \textit{Int} \leq \textit{Context} \\ & | & \textit{Id} := \textit{Context} \end{array}$$

we add the following rewrite logic rules and equations:

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{split}(A_1 \leq A_2) \rightarrow (C \leq A_2)[\textit{Syn}] \text{ if } \textit{split}(A_1) \rightarrow C[\textit{Syn}] \\ \textit{plug}((C \leq A_2)[\textit{Syn}]) = \textit{plug}(C[\textit{Syn}]) \leq A_2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{split}(I_1 \leq A_2) \rightarrow (I_1 \leq C)[\textit{Syn}] \text{ if } \textit{split}(A_2) \rightarrow C[\textit{Syn}] \\ \textit{plug}((I_1 \leq C)[\textit{Syn}]) = I_1 \leq \textit{plug}(C[\textit{Syn}]) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{split}(X := A) \rightarrow (X := C)[\textit{Syn}] \text{ if } \textit{split}(A) \rightarrow C[\textit{Syn}] \\ \textit{plug}((X := C)[\textit{Syn}]) = X := \textit{plug}(C[\textit{Syn}]) \end{array}$$

RSEC Reduction Rules in Rewriting Logic

// for each term l that appears as the left-hand side of a reduction rule
// “ $l(c_1[l_1], \dots, c_n[l_n]) \rightarrow \dots$ ”, add the following conditional
// rewrite rule (there could be one l for many reduction rules):

$$\circ\bar{l}(T_1, \dots, T_n) \rightarrow T \text{ if } \text{plug}(\circ\bar{l}(\text{split}(T_1), \dots, \text{split}(T_n))) \rightarrow T$$

// for each non-identity term r appearing as right-hand side in a reduction rule
// “ $\dots \rightarrow r(c_1[r_1], \dots, c_n[r_n])$ ”, add the following equation
// (there could be one r for many reduction rules):

$$\text{plug}(\bar{r}(\text{Syn}_1, \dots, \text{Syn}_n)) = \bar{r}(\text{plug}(\text{Syn}_1), \dots, \text{plug}(\text{Syn}_n))$$

// for each reduction semantics rule “ $l(c_1[l_1], \dots, c_n[l_n]) \rightarrow r(c'_1[r_1], \dots, c'_{n'}[r_{n'}])$ ”
// add the following “semantic” rewrite rule:

$$\circ\bar{l}(\bar{c}_1[\bar{l}_1], \dots, \bar{c}_n[\bar{l}_n]) \rightarrow \bar{r}(\bar{c}'_1[\bar{r}_1], \dots, \bar{c}'_{n'}[\bar{r}_{n'}])$$

IMP Examples

- One rule of first kind

$$\circ Cfg \rightarrow Cfg' \text{ if } plug(\circ split(Cfg)) \rightarrow Cfg'$$

- No need for equations of second kind

- Characteristic rule of RSEC:

$$\circ C[Syn] \rightarrow C[Syn'] \text{ if } C \neq \square \wedge \circ Syn \rightarrow Syn'$$

- The remaining rules are as natural as can be:

$$\circ I_1 \leq I_2 \rightarrow I_1 \leq_{Int} I_2$$

$$\circ \text{skip} ; S_2 \rightarrow S_2$$

$$\circ \text{if true then } S_1 \text{ else } S_2 \rightarrow S_1$$

RSEC of IMP in Maude

- See file
 - ▣ `imp-split-plug.maude`
- See files
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-evaluation-contexts-1.maude`
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-evaluation-contexts-2.maude`
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-evaluation-contexts-3.maude`

CHAM

The chemical abstract machine

The Chemical Abstract Machine (CHAM)

- Berry and Boudol (1992)
- Both a model of concurrency and a specific semantic style
- Chemical metaphor
 - ▣ States regarded as chemical *solutions* containing floating *molecules*
 - ▣ Molecules can interact with each other by means of *reactions*
 - ▣ Reactions take place *concurrently, unrestricted by context*
 - ▣ Solutions are encapsulated within new molecules, using *membranes*
 - The following is a solution containing k molecules:

$$\{m_1 \ m_2 \ \dots \ m_k\}$$

CHAM Syntax and Rules

$Molecule ::= Solution$

$| Molecule \triangleleft Solution$



Airlock

$Solution ::= \{\mathbf{Bag}\{Molecule\}\}$

CHAM Rules

- Ordinary rewrite rules between solution terms:

$$m_1 \ m_2 \ \dots \ m_k \rightarrow m'_1 \ m'_2 \ \dots m'_l$$

- Rewriting takes place *only within solutions*
- Three (metaphoric) kinds of rules
 - ▣ *Heating* rules using \rightarrow : structurally rearrange solution
 - ▣ *Cooling* rules using \rightarrow_c : clean up solution after reactions
 - ▣ *Reaction* rules using \rightarrow_r : change solution irreversibly

CHAM Airlock

- Allows to extract molecules from encapsulated solutions
- Governed by two rules coming in a heating/cooling pair:

$$\{m_1 \ m_2 \ \dots \ m_k\} \rightleftharpoons \{m_1 \triangleleft \{m_2 \ \dots \ m_k\}\}$$

CHAM Molecule Configuration for IMP

- A top-level solution containing two subsolution molecules
 - ▣ One for holding the syntax
 - ▣ Another for holding the state

$\{ \{ \text{Syntax} \} \quad \{ \text{State} \} \}$

- Example:

$\{ \{ x := (3 / (x + 2)) \} \quad \{ x \mapsto 1 \quad y \mapsto 0 \} \}$

Airlock can be Problematic

- Airlock cannot be used to encode evaluation strategies; heating/cooling rules of the form

$$x := a \quad \Rightarrow \quad a \triangleleft \{x := \square\}$$

$$a_1 + a_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_1 \triangleleft \{\square + a_2\}$$

$$a_1 + a_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_2 \triangleleft \{a_1 + \square\}$$

are problematic, because they yield ambiguity, e.g.,

$$\{x := (3 / (x + 2))\} \quad \Rightarrow \quad x := ((3 / x) + 2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \{x := (3 / (x + 2))\} &\Rightarrow \{(3 / (x + 2)) \triangleleft \{x := \square\}\} \\ &\Rightarrow \{(3 / (x + 2)) \quad (x := \square)\} \\ &\Rightarrow \{(x + 2) \quad (3 / \square) \quad (x := \square)\} \\ &\Rightarrow \{x \quad (\square + 2) \quad (3 / \square) \quad (x := \square)\} \end{aligned}$$

Correct Representation of Syntax

- Other attempts fail, too (see the lecture notes)
- We need some mechanism which is not based on airlocks
- We borrow the representation approach of K

▣ Term $x := (3 / (x + 2))$ represented as

$$x \curvearrowright (\square + 2) \curvearrowright (3 / \square) \curvearrowright (x := \square) \curvearrowright \square$$

- Can be achieved using heating/cooling rules of the form

$$(x := a) \curvearrowright c \quad \rightleftharpoons \quad a \curvearrowright (x := \square) \curvearrowright c$$

$$(a_1 / a_2) \curvearrowright c \quad \rightleftharpoons \quad a_2 \curvearrowright (a_1 / \square) \curvearrowright c$$

$$(a_1 + a_2) \curvearrowright c \quad \rightleftharpoons \quad a_1 \curvearrowright (\square + a_2) \curvearrowright c$$

$$s \quad \rightleftharpoons \quad s \curvearrowright \square$$

CHAM Heating-Cooling Rules for IMP

$$a_1 + a_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a_1 \rightsquigarrow \square + a_2 \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$a_1 + a_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a_2 \rightsquigarrow a_1 + \square \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$a_1 / a_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a_1 \rightsquigarrow \square / a_2 \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$a_1 / a_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a_2 \rightsquigarrow a_1 / \square \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$a_1 \leq a_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a_1 \rightsquigarrow \square \leq a_2 \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$i_1 \leq a_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a_2 \rightsquigarrow i_1 \leq \square \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$\text{not } b \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad b \rightsquigarrow \text{not } \square \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$b_1 \text{ and } b_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad b_1 \rightsquigarrow \square \text{ and } b_2 \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$x := a \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad a \rightsquigarrow x := \square \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$s_1 ; s_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad s_1 \rightsquigarrow \square ; s_2 \rightsquigarrow c$$

$$s \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad s \rightsquigarrow \square$$

$$\text{if } b \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightsquigarrow c \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad b \rightsquigarrow \text{if } \square \text{ then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \rightsquigarrow c$$

Examples of Syntax Heating/Cooling

- The following is *correct* heating/cooling of syntax:

$$\{x := 1 ; x := (3 / (x + 2))\} \Rightarrow^*$$

$$\{x := 1 \leadsto (\Box ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \leadsto \Box\}$$

- The following is *incorrect* heating/cooling of syntax:

$$\{x := 1 ; x := (3 / (x + 2))\} \Rightarrow^*$$

$$\{x := 1 ; (x \leadsto (\Box + 2) \leadsto (3 / \Box) \leadsto (x := \Box) \leadsto \Box))\}$$

CHAM Reaction Rules for IMP

$$\begin{array}{lll} \{x \simeq c\} \{x \mapsto i \triangleright \sigma\} & \rightarrow & \{i \simeq c\} \{x \mapsto i \triangleright \sigma\} \\ i_1 + i_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & i_1 +_{Int} i_2 \simeq c \\ i_1 / i_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & i_1 /_{Int} i_2 \simeq c \quad \text{when } i_2 \neq 0 \\ i_1 \leq i_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & i_1 \leq_{Int} i_2 \simeq c \\ \text{not true} \simeq c & \rightarrow & \text{false} \simeq c \\ \text{not false} \simeq c & \rightarrow & \text{true} \simeq c \\ \text{true and } b_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & b_2 \simeq c \\ \text{false and } b_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & \text{false} \simeq c \\ \{x := i \simeq c\} \{x \mapsto j \triangleright \sigma\} & \rightarrow & \{\text{skip} \simeq c\} \{x \mapsto i \triangleright \sigma\} \\ \text{skip} ; s_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & s_2 \simeq c \\ \text{if true then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & s_1 \simeq c \\ \text{if false then } s_1 \text{ else } s_2 \simeq c & \rightarrow & s_2 \simeq c \\ \text{while } b \text{ do } s \simeq c & \rightarrow & \text{if } b \text{ then } (s ; \text{while } b \text{ do } s) \text{ else skip} \simeq c \\ \text{vars } xl ; s & \rightarrow & \{s\} \{xl \mapsto 0\} \\ (x, xl) \mapsto i & \rightarrow & x \mapsto i \triangleright \{xl \mapsto i\} \end{array}$$

Sample CHAM Rewriting

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \{\{ \text{vars } x, y ; x := 1 ; x := (3 / (x + 2)) \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{x := 1 ; x := (3 / (x + 2))\} \{x, y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ (x := 1 ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x, y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \rightarrow^* \\
 & \{\{ \{ (x := 1 ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 0 \ y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ (x := 1) \sqsim (\square ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 0 \ y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ (x := 1) \sqsim (\square ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 0 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ \text{skip} \sqsim (\square ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ (\text{skip} ; x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ (x := (3 / (x + 2))) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow^* \\
 & \{\{ \{ x \sqsim (\square + 2) \sqsim (3 / \square) \sqsim (x := \square) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ 1 \sqsim (\square + 2) \sqsim (3 / \square) \sqsim (x := \square) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ (1 + 2) \sqsim (3 / \square) \sqsim (x := \square) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ 3 \sqsim (3 / \square) \sqsim (x := \square) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow^* \\
 & \{\{ \{ (x := 1) \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ \text{skip} \sqsim \square \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \} \rightarrow \\
 & \{\{ \{ \text{skip} \} \{x \mapsto 1 \triangleright \{y \mapsto 0\} \} \} \}
 \end{aligned}$$

CHAM in Rewriting Logic

- CHAM rules cannot be used unchanged as rewrite rules
 - ▣ They need to only apply in solutions, not anywhere they match
- We represent each CHAM rule

$$m_1 \ m_2 \ \dots \ m_k \rightarrow m'_1 \ m'_2 \ \dots \ m'_l$$

into a rewrite logic rule

$$\{\overline{m_1} \ \overline{m_2} \ \dots \ \overline{m_k} \ Ms\} \rightarrow \{\overline{m'_1} \ \overline{m'_2} \ \dots \ \overline{m'_l} \ Ms\}$$

where Ms is a fresh bag-of-molecule variable and the overlined molecules are the algebraic variants of the original ones, replacing in particular their meta-variables by variables

CHAM of IMP in Maude

- See file
 - ▣ `imp-heating-cooling.maude`
- See file
 - ▣ `imp-semantics-cham.maude`

DENOTATIONAL

Denotational or fixed-point semantics

COMPARING CONVENTIONAL EXECUTABLE SEMANTICS

How good are the various semantic approaches?

IMP++: A Language Design Experiment

- We next discuss the conventional executable semantics approaches in depth, aiming at understanding their pros and cons
- Our approach is to extend each semantics of IMP with various common features (we call the resulting language IMP++)
 - ▣ *Variable increment* – this will add side effects to expressions
 - ▣ *Output* – this will require changes in the configuration
 - ▣ *Abrupt termination* – this requires explicit handling of control
 - ▣ *Dynamic threads* – this requires handling concurrency and sharing
 - ▣ *Local variables* – this requires handling environments
- We will first treat each extension of IMP independently, i.e., we do not pro-actively take semantic decisions when defining a feature that will help the definition of other features later on. Then, we will put all features together into our IMP++ final language.

IMP++ Variable Increment

- Syntax:

$$AExp ::= \dots \mid ++ Id$$

- Variable increment is very common (C, C++, Java, etc.)
 - ▣ We only consider pre-increment (first increment, then return value)
- The problem with increment in some semantic approaches is that it adds side effects to expressions. Therefore, if one did not pro-actively account for that then one needs to change many existing and unrelated semantics rules, if not all.

IMP++ Variable Increment

Big-Step SOS

- Previous big-step SOS rules had the form:

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 \rangle \quad \langle a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 /_{Int} i_2 \rangle}, \text{ where } i_2 \neq 0$$

- Big-step SOS is the most affected by side effects
 - ▣ Needs to change its sequents from $\langle a, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i \rangle$ to $\langle a, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i, \sigma' \rangle$
 - ▣ And all the existing rules accordingly, e.g.:

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \langle a_2, \sigma_1 \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2, \sigma_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 /_{Int} i_2, \sigma_2 \rangle}, \text{ where } i_2 \neq 0$$

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- Recall IMP operators like $/$ were non-deterministically strict. Here is an attempt to achieve that with big-step SOS

$$\frac{\langle a_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1, \sigma_1 \rangle, \langle a_2, \sigma_1 \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_2, \sigma_2 \rangle}{\langle a_1 / a_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle i_1 /_{Int} i_2, \sigma_2 \rangle}, \quad \text{where } i_2 \neq 0$$

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- All we got is “non-deterministic choice” strictness: choose an order, then evaluate the arguments in that order
 - Some behaviors are thus lost, but this is relatively acceptable in practice since programmers should not rely on those behaviors in their programs anyway (the loss of behaviors when we add threads is going to be much worse)

IMP++ Variable Increment

Big-Step SOS

- We are now ready to add the big-step SOS for variable increment (this is easy now, the hard part was to get here):

$$\langle ++x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \langle \sigma(x) +_{Int} 1, \sigma[(\sigma(x) +_{Int} 1)/x] \rangle$$

- Example:
 - ▣ How many values can the following expression possibly evaluate to under the big-step SOS of IMP++ above (assume x is initially 1)?

$$++x / (++x / x)$$

- ▣ Can it evaluate to 0 or even be undefined under a fully non-deterministic evaluation strategy?

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IMP++ Variable Increment

Small-Step SOS

- Since small-step SOS “gets back to the top” at each step, it actually does not lose any non-deterministic behaviors
 - ▣ We get fully non-deterministic evaluation strategies for all the IMP constructs instead of “non-deterministic choice” ones
- The semantics of variable increment almost the same as in big-step SOS (indeed, variable increment is an atomic operation):

$$\langle ++x, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \sigma(x) +_{Int} 1, \sigma[(\sigma(x) +_{Int} 1)/x] \rangle$$

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- Previous MSOS rules had the form:

$$\frac{a_1 \rightarrow a'_1}{a_1 / a_2 \rightarrow a'_1 / a_2}$$

- All semantic changes are hidden within labels, which are implicitly propagated through the general MSOS mechanism
- Consequently, the MSOS of IMP only needs the following rule to accommodate variable updates; nothing else changes!

$$++x \xrightarrow{\{\text{state}=\sigma, \text{state}'=\sigma[(\sigma(x)+_{Int}1)/x], \dots\}} \sigma(x) +_{Int} 1$$

IMP++ Variable Increment

Reduction Semantics with Eval. Contexts

- Previous RSEC evaluation contexts and rules had the form:

$$\textit{Context} ::= \square \mid \textit{Context} / \textit{AExp} \mid \textit{AExp} / \textit{Context}$$

$$i_1 / i_2 \rightarrow i_1 /_{Int} i_2, \quad \text{when } i_2 \neq 0$$

$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle [x] \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma \rangle [\sigma(x)]$$

- Evaluation contexts, together with the characteristic rule of RSEC, allows for compact unconditional rules, mentioning only what is needed from the entire configuration
- Consequently, the RSED of IMP only needs the following rule to accommodate variable updates; nothing else changes!

$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle [++x] \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma[(\sigma(x) +_{Int} 1)/x] \rangle [\sigma(x) +_{Int} 1]$$

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CHAM

- Previous CHAM heating/cooling/reaction rules had the form:

$$a_1 / a_2 \curvearrowright c \quad \Rightarrow \quad a_1 \curvearrowright \square / a_2 \curvearrowright c$$

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$$\{x \curvearrowright c\} \{x \mapsto i \triangleright \sigma\} \quad \rightarrow \quad \{i \curvearrowright c\} \{x \mapsto i \triangleright \sigma\}$$

- Since the heating/cooling rules achieve the role of the evaluation contexts and since one can only mention the necessary molecules in each rule, one does not need to change anything either!
- All one needs to do is to add the following rule:

$$\{++x \curvearrowright c\} \{x \mapsto i \triangleright \sigma\} \rightarrow \{i +_{Int} 1 \curvearrowright c\} \{x \mapsto i +_{Int} 1 \triangleright \sigma\}$$

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- Syntax:

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Where is the rest?

- We discussed the remaining features in class, using the whiteboard and colors.
- The lecture notes contain the complete information, even more than we discussed in class.